

ARMY COMMUNITY SERVICE (ACS) CENTER

FAMILY ADVOCACY PROGRAM (FAP)

Let Family Advocacy help put the pieces back together again

FAP provides the following:

- ❖ Crisis Intervention
- ❖ New Parent Support/First Steps Program
- ❖ Respite Care
- ❖ Parental Stress Relief Program
- ❖ Victim Advocacy
- ❖ Community Resources
- ❖ Education Materials
- ❖ Marriage Retreats

For more information please contact Family Advocacy at 706-545-4013/7594. Located in building 241 Baltzell Avenue (next to the Infantry Museum).

Respite Care: Respite Care provides temporary child care for the purpose of relieving parental stress, and a nurturing, developmental environment for children. Each Respite Care need is evaluated on a case by case basis, and can be personally discussed, at the parents' request, with the FAP family program advocate. General times Respite Care is made available include days or evenings when parents attend:

- ❖ Parenting Classes
- ❖ Individual/Couples Counseling
- ❖ Support Groups
- ❖ Or when in need of a stress break due to a family crisis, deployment, or reunion.

No cost to the families. POC is **Theresa Sanchez, 706-545-4013.**

Parental Stress Relief Program: The Family Advocacy Program provides stress relief to couples prior to deployment and as part of the reunion/reintegration process after deployment. FAP contracts with Child and Youth Services' (CYS) Tot Town Child Development Center to provide free respite child care once a month for mom/dad's night out during and after deployment to promote positive healthy families. Contact your Family Readiness Group leader to learn more about this event.

No cost to the families. POC is **Rebecca Welch, Family Advocacy Program Manager, 706-545-0892.**

The Family Advocacy New Parent Support Program: This program provides emotional support, parenting education, and referrals to community resources to help develop healthy family relationships and reduce the risk of child abuse/neglect. Each mom and dad receives a tote bag filled with education materials, including a First Steps Calendar with developmental milestones, and a nursery rhyme CD that is medically proven to be effective for soothing newborns. **This program is especially beneficial to spouses as a support or crisis intervention resource during deployments and reunions.**

POC is **Carolyn Harris**, FAP New Parent Support Coordinator, **706-544-2020**. Located 3rd floor Martin Army Community Hospital.

VICTIM ADVOCACY: Through the Family Advocacy Program, victim advocates will:

- ❖ Provide assistance and liaison to victims of domestic violence.
- ❖ Make referrals to Social Work Service for evaluation and victim counseling.
- ❖ Provide emotional support and information on safety, financial, and legal resources available through both military and civilian agencies.

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

Fort Benning Victim Advocate Coordinator:	706-545-4013/7594
Fort Benning Military Police:	706-545-5222
Fort Benning Social Work Service:	706-545-1661
Fort Benning Chaplain's Family Life Center:	706-545-1760
Hope Harbour, Columbus Shelter:	706-324-3850
Crisis Center of Russell County:	334-297-4401
National Domestic Violence Hotline:	1-800-799-SAFE
Military One Source:	1-800-342-9647

REMEMBER YOU ARE NOT ALONE!

RETREATS

Marriage Enrichment Retreats *for* Soldiers and their Spouses

**All of us need to improve our skills when it comes to
loving the most important people in our lives.
Retreat dates will be announced
by your unit chaplain.**

**You will be invited to attend a romantic retreat
as part of the reunion process.**



**Sponsored by the Family Advocacy Program and the
Chaplain's Family Life Center**

FINANCIAL READINESS PROGRAM

Many couples put themselves in a real bind after celebrating their homecoming with an expensive spending spree. The common desire to do this was mentioned earlier. (Remember, if you can't afford it, don't do it! The urge to spend money passes.) Others encounter financial problems for various reasons.

Regardless of the reason, if you are returning from deployment with financial problems, the ACS Financial Readiness Program (FRP) is here to help you. Our expert counselors are available at Fort Benning to assist you and your spouse with sound financial advice. They will talk with your creditors and arrange a monthly budget that can pay off your debts. They also offer advice on saving, and home or car finance.

FRP provides the following:

- ❖ Financial counseling/education.
- ❖ Consumer information.
- ❖ Credit problem assistance.
- ❖ Financial planning for deployments and transitions.
- ❖ Financial subsistence supplemental allowance (FSSA screening).
- ❖ Seasonal volunteer income tax assistance (VITA).

Located in building 2624 Soldiers Plaza, phone 706-545-7517/4043.

ARMY EMERGENCY RELIEF

AER assistance may be provided for:

- ❖ Non-receipt of pay.
- ❖ Loss of funds.
- ❖ Medical, dental, and hospital expenses.
- ❖ Funeral expenses.
- ❖ Rent or mortgage payments.
- ❖ Utilities.
- ❖ POV repair.
- ❖ Emergency food locker assistance.

Spouse must have a power of attorney to receive AER assistance.

Located in building 2624, phone 706-545-7517/4043